



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Note: Audio comments from U.S. Attorney Todd Graves are available in MP3 format
and may be downloaded from the district's Web site at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow*

CLINTON COUNTY MAN CHARGED WITH ILLEGALLY POSSESSING MACHINE GUNS, OTHER FIREARMS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a Clinton County, Mo., man has been charged in a federal criminal complaint with illegally possessing machine guns and other firearms.

Richard S. Robinson, 36, of Clinton County, was charged in a criminal complaint that was filed under seal in U.S. District Court in Kansas City on Feb. 2, 2005. The complaint was unsealed and made public upon **Robinson's** arrested and initial court appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge Sarah Hays this morning. **Robinson** remains in federal custody awaiting a detention hearing on Feb. 23, 2005.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint, **Robinson** kept a number of illegal firearms and ammunition in an underground bunker – two buried cargo containers covered with concrete – on his 20-acre property near Cameron, Mo. The bunker has its own water and air filtration system, the affidavit says, with police scanners, a two-way radio, an surveillance cameras monitoring the outside. The affidavit also describes a large shooting range on the property.

Robinson, who lives on the property in a pop-up trailer, allegedly traded a Bushmaster AR-15 – a fully automatic machine gun – as well as ammunition, a 9 mm handgun and a bulletproof vest to a Raytown, Mo., man for one pound of high-grade marijuana. The affidavit also alleges that **Robinson** sold another Bushmaster AR-15, also fully automatic, to another person on the same day.

Robinson was also in possession of an anti-tank gun, with a tripod and ammunition, the affidavit says, which he offered to sell for \$20,000. Also on the property was a .30-caliber sniper rifle on a tripod, which **Robinson** allegedly offered to sell for \$4,000 to \$5,000.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the criminal complaint is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow